

ARIZONA WEEKLY JOURNAL-MINER.

VOL. XXIII—No. 33.

PRESCOTT, ARIZONA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1887.

PRICE TEN CENTS.

ARIZONA WEEKLY JOURNAL-MINER.

Published weekly, except on Sundays and holidays, at the Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner, Prescott, Arizona.

Subscription price, \$2.00 per annum in advance.

Single copies, 10 cents.

Advertisements, as per rates on other page.

Entered as second-class matter, October 3, 1879.

Postoffice at Prescott, Arizona, under No. 100.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1879.

Authorizes the Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner to receive and forward to the postoffice at Prescott, Arizona, for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1879.

Postpaid.

Published by J. W. Evans, Prescott, Arizona.

Printed by J. W. Evans, Prescott, Arizona.

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PRESCOTT & ARIZONA CENTRAL RAILWAY.

TIME SCHEDULE.

Passenger.

January 14, 1887.

(Central Time)

Prescott City Ar.

Mountain Time

Prescott City Ar.

Pacific Time

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The Tortilla Exposé.

We heartily commend the following

candid statement for the careful consideration

of parties who have been so ready to denounce a property of which

they know nothing about. It is from the

Tucson Citizen, and is, we believe, a

truthful statement:

A few days since, during a sort of

public gathering in Prescott, over the

rich gold find on the Hassayampa

river, one of the speakers took occasion

to refer to the Tortilla racket in Pima

county. In the first place, these mines

are not in Pima county, but in Pinal;

and in the second place, the character of

the mines have yet to be honestly ques-

tioned. We say this without fear of

favor to any one. We have not, as we

once before said, and never had, one

lot of interest in these mines beyond

that of the common good. Feeling that

we are in our position, we are constrained

to reply briefly to the many and un-

just criticisms to which the mines have

been subjected. The first censorious

criticism was the natural result of a

speculative jockey into whose hands a

portion of the stock had been entrusted

for disposition. He peddled it to every

newspaper office in the country, offering

a specified amount of stock in payment

for advertising the stock for sale, etc.

The above offer was made to us, and

notwithstanding our faith in the mines,

we were forced to confess that the thing

looked snide, and but for our firm be-

lief in the future of the Tortilla mines,

the Citizen would have been among the

first in the field against them.

It remained, however, for an individ-

ual calling himself Gen. Hal Sayer to ad-

minister the coup de grace. The fellow

came to Tucson, and was so extremely

desirous to conceal his identity and pur-

poses that he employed one of our citi-

zens, whom we regret to say, secured

particularly anxious to further his

schemes. Together they went to the

Tortilla, and according to Mr. Elmore,

by a series of misrepresentations, suc-

ceeded in getting him to show them

through the mines, which he court-

teously did. He likewise offered to

show them the several places where the

veins had been cut below the water level,

and where, Mr. Elmore claimed, the

largest ore bodies were to be found, but

these things Mr. Sayer and his compan-

ions did not care to see. They were

looking for fruit, and were anxious to

securely place places as they thought

would fit the bill of their desires. Sayer

then returned to Tucson, where, in ad-

dition to the Tortilla "exposé," he pro-

nounced the mines in Arizona to be

generally worthless, and succeeded in

convincing the statement into the Denver

Daily Times. The Managing editor was

absent at the time, but on his return he

published a fair and ample apology for

the appearance of said article. The

columns therein expressed, he said, were

those of Sayer, and not of him-

self or paper. The reputation of the

Sayer ideas has been generally repro-

duced by the press of this territory, but

the fact that Sayer circulated these re-

ports proves him as an expert to be both

unfair and incompetent. There is just

cause reason to accept his denunciatory

statements of Arizona mines as a whole,

as there is to accept his perverted ac-

count of what he did not see at the

Tortilla. If the former is false, and

there is not a miner in all Arizona that

will not so denounce it, where is the

proof of the authenticity of the latter?

BLACKMAILERS AT WORK.

A Boulder, Colorado, paper makes

complaint of a practice there by a cer-

tain parties whose counterparts are to

be found in some mining camp in Arizona.

It says:

"By the way, another of our mining

sales has been knocked higher than a

kite by some blackmailer from this ter-

ritory, who is said to have written the

parties who were negotiating a sale of

the property and which was re-

ported in the Denver papers as old

a few days ago. A letter received by a

person owning the property, with a re-

port from a St. Louis paper, tells the

whole story of the dastardly action of

the blackmailer.

"Will such contemptible curs always

escape the vengeance of the mine owner?

And is it absolutely necessary to ap-

propriate a certain amount of hush money

for these sharks before there can be a

genuine transfer? Have mine owners to

make their arrangements with this class

of lawless before entering into negotia-

tions with the purchasers, and does this

blackmailing in any manner affect the

price? Is the capital or mine owner that

suffers from the existence of such men in

a community? What action can be taken

to rid a mining district of such men?

Commenting on the above, the Den-

ver Mining Review says: "This system

of blackmailing has become a scourge in

our mining camps, and now we see no

other way to deal with the matter except

for the miners to form an association as